

Fuel Cycle Facility

Event # 41435

Facility: HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL, INC.		Notification Date / Time: 02/23/2005 16:53 (EST)	
Licensee: HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL, INC.		Event Date / Time: 02/22/2005 (CST)	
Fac Type: URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE PRODUCTION		Last Modification: 02/23/2005	
Region: 2		Docket #: 04003392	
City: METROPOLIS		Agreement State: Yes	
County: MASSAC		License #: SUB-526	
State: IL			
NRC Notified by: MICHAEL GINZEL		Notifications: JOEL MUNDAY R2	
HQ Ops Officer: STEVE SANDIN		SCOTT MOORE NMSS	
Emergency Class: NON EMERGENCY			
10 CFR Section: 21.21		UNSPECIFIED PARAGRAPH	

PART 21 INVOLVING A DEFECT OF A DESCOTE BRAND VALVE USED ON UF6 14 TON CYLINDERS

The licensee faxed over the following information for their Part 21 report:

"Metropolis Works, Metropolis, Illinois (Uranium Conversion Facility) is reporting a potential deviation and defect of a Descote brand valve used in UF6 14 Ton Cylinders.

"While preparing to fill a new UF6 14 Ton Cylinder from Urenco (Supplier/Customer), a potential deviation was recognized during the plant procedural pre-fill 60 lb. pressure check that identified improper torque of the Descote brand valve's packing nut. Torque inspections of all new Urenco cylinders on site were initiated when the deviation became apparent in four cylinders. A total of 57 cylinders at the plant were found to be outside the required torque specifications for these new 14 Ton UF6 cylinders. All of these valves on-site have been properly torqued as of 2/23/05.

"Secondly, one of the valves noted above was re-torqued and passed the procedural pressure check after which the filling process proceeded. Upon filling the cylinder, a small, localized seepage occurred that was controlled immediately per procedure. The cylinder was isolated and allowed to cool (liquid to solid phase) to facilitate valve replacement and further investigation of the valve. During the investigation on 2/22/05, two issues were apparent including improper seating of the valve (though no obvious signs were recognized) and a potential minor crack/imperfection was recognized on this 613 packing nut under magnification. This valve is being prepared to send off site for detailed metallurgical analysis. MTW personnel have communicated this inconsistency with the certifying organization (Urenco) and determined this is a reportable event as a defect per 10 CFR 21.21 requirements and plant procedures.

"No workers have received a chemical exposure from this issue and no material release from the facility occurred.

"Marking on the valve are as follows (comments):

IE20

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"Descote Valve

Type 51.1 valve (revision # /size)

N-1000 (in casting)

11 246 (valve #/type:)

"Opposite side of valve

(manufacture information)

0011068173

557 R05

204250

636 made in France

"Packing Nut Information

613

579 R08

51.1 Type"

Licensee notified NRC personnel Dave Hartland, Region 2 and Michael Raddatz NRC HQ.
